

REMARKS

Claims 42-46, 48-54, 56, 58-63, and 64-65, 69, and 70 are pending. Claims 42, 50, and 58 are in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview conducted with Applicant's representative on December 11, 2007, at which time the present Supplemental Amendment was discussed.

In particular, the interview addressed the circumstance where the relying party received valid digital credential information from an unauthorized user but yet information indicative of receipt of the valid digital credential information is provided from the authentication service to a first user, as now recited in claims 42 and 50.

Further, claim 58 has been amended to recite that the authentication server is configured to provide information indicative of receipt of valid digital credential information without regard to whether the relying party has received the valid digital credential information from the first user.

These changes are believed to address the contention a client's receipt of an accept message from an application server inherently constitutes information provided from the authentication service to the first user indicative of receipt of valid digital credential information. In this regard, an

unauthorized or other user would appear to be the recipient of any such accept message since the valid digital credential information originated with the unauthorized or other user.

Accordingly, even if U.S. Patent No. 6,021,202 to Anderson et al. (hereinafter "Anderson") and U.S. Patent No. 6,275,941 to Saito et al. (hereinafter "Saito") were combined, one of ordinary skill would not arrive at the recited subject matter. Therefore, claims 42, 50, 58, and their dependencies are allowable over Anderson and Saito.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue, or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue, or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. No fees are believed due at this time. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,


John F. Conroy
Reg. No. 45,485
Attorney for Intel Corporation

Fish & Richardson P.C.
PTO Customer No. **20985**
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, California 92130
(858) 678-5070 telephone
(858) 678-5099 facsimile

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